

Toward a Greener California



2014 Sustainability Accomplishments Report

The **Accomplishments Report** is a snapshot of how the California Department of General Services is working to reduce the state's environmental footprint through sustainable state government operations and practices.



Executive Summary

Governor Brown's commitment to reducing California's impact on the environment includes landmark efforts that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve energy efficiency and save taxpayer dollars for generations to come.

Through the leadership of the Department of General Services (DGS), state agencies are reducing California's impact on climate change on several fronts, categorized in this report as:

- **Building Green**
- **Driving Green**
- **Buying Green**
- **Traveling Green**
- **Educating Green**

Actions detailed in this report occurred primarily in 2014, although some initiatives began before, and many will continue beyond.



Building Green



[Executive Order B-18-12](#) sets forth aggressive targets for state agencies and departments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save water, and reduce grid-based energy purchases – all of which ultimately lower costs. In addition to reducing energy in its own buildings, DGS also serves as the reporting agency for many of the initiatives set forth in the executive order. DGS has created systems and oversees the reporting for State Agency Energy and Water Benchmarking as well as State Facility Drought Actions Matrix.

2014 Highlights:

- In 2014, DGS reduced energy use in its buildings by 19 percent, compared to a 2003 baseline, nearly meeting Governor Brown's mandate to cut energy use 20 percent by 2018.
- DGS serves as a resource for other state agencies seeking to make their buildings Zero Net Energy (ZNE). In 2014, DGS assisted in building projects for several departments including Department of Public Health, Air Resources Board, Department of Motor Vehicles, and Lottery Commission. Additionally, DGS coauthored ZNE recommendations to the federal General Services Administration.
- DGS assists many departments with their renewable energy projects. Two solar photovoltaic projects were completed at Pleasant Valley State Prison and Coalinga State Hospital, totaling 3.22 megawatts (MWs) capacity. As of December 2014, under the Power Purchase Agreement program, which DGS oversees, energy capacity generated by renewable sources totaled 37.1 MWs. In 2014, DGS solicited bids for five wind generator project sites and for solar photovoltaic projects on 14 sites; if fully developed, these projects would generate over 46 megawatts (MWs) of clean renewable electricity.
- DGS participated in the development of Proposition 39 (Clean Energy Jobs Act) guidelines and implemented procedures in all regional offices to assist in expediting or exempting the plan review process.
- The High Performance Incentive Grant program that provided money to schools for energy efficiency upgrades ended in 2014. At the close of this program DGS had conducted over 325 plan reviews for school projects within seven years, 36 of which were completed in 2014.



Building Green

Saving Water

In January 2014, Governor Brown declared a drought state of emergency, tasking DGS with “immediately implement(ing) water use reduction plans for all state facilities.” Throughout 2014, DGS took many actions to reduce and conserve water at state buildings. Highlights of these efforts include:

- Reduced landscape irrigation at DGS-managed facilities.
- Upgraded irrigation systems and fixtures in 24 buildings with water tracking and saving devices.
- Reduced water use in buildings through replacement and upgrade of indoor plumbing.
- Collaborated with SaveOurWater.com to launch Water Watchers website for reporting water waste at state-owned facilities.
- Created online tool for departments to track drought response actions.
- Assessed existing water cooling towers for leaks and inefficiencies.
- Ceased washing windows at DGS-managed buildings as well as state fleet vehicles, except for safety or health reasons.
- Issued guidance to more than 1,700 leased facilities on how to reduce water consumption.





Driving Green



[Executive Orders B-18-12](#) and [B-16-12](#) have aggressive goals to expand the use of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) in California. The state fleet is directed to ensure that at least 10 percent of fleet purchases of light-duty vehicles be zero-emission by 2015, and that at least 25 percent of fleet purchases of light-duty vehicles be zero-emission by 2020. Many of those vehicles will be battery electric vehicles, which require electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) installed in garages and surface lots to serve as fuel sources.

2014 Highlights:

- DGS serves as a resource for other state departments on EVSE. In 2014, DGS created an EVSE guidance document released to all state departments. In addition, EVSE procurement contracts for both basic and smart EVSE devices—including turnkey installation, networking services and maintenance—were finalized, and DGS hosted a Smart EVSE Charging Station Customer Forum for all state departments to interact with vendors.
- DGS currently has 64 electric vehicle charging stations and will install 100 more workplace charging stations in DGS parking facilities by June 30, 2018.
- DGS, on behalf of all state agencies, was recognized as one of North America's [100 Greenest Fleets](#) for the third year in a row.
- In calendar year 2014, California purchased a total of:
 - Hybrid vehicles: 307
 - Zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs): 85
 - Of those ZEVs, 32 were plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and 53 were battery electric vehicles (BEVs). Further, of the 53 BEVs, 44 were SUVs.



Buying Green



Environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP) is the purchase of products that are safer for the environment, public health, and use less energy. Some of the EPP purchases made in 2014 include electric vehicles; EVSE; and recycled paper, toner and ink cartridges.

2014 Highlights:

- As a leader in EPP practices in state government, DGS participated in the development of the National Association of State Procurement Officials Green Purchasing Guide, as well as conducted EPP training for buyers across the state.
- As a demonstration of commitment to EPP, DGS became one of the founding members in developing the Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council (SPLC) Principles for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing, which seeks to increase alignment and benchmark sustainable purchasing across multiple organizations of suppliers, government and private institutional purchasers and advocates. Additionally, DGS assisted in publishing SPLC Guidance for Leadership in Sustainable Purchasing Version 1.0, which provides guidance in establishing and running a strategic sustainable purchasing program.
- Of the 82 current statewide EPP contracts, 22 were awarded in 2014.

look for





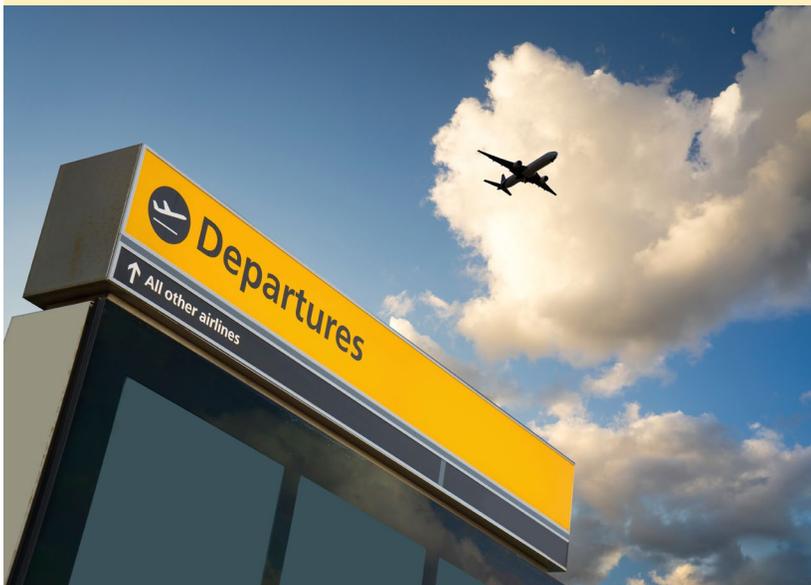
Traveling Green



The lodging industry purchases a large volume of products, generates considerable waste, and uses significant amounts of water and energy. By taking concrete steps like recycling and installing energy- and water-efficient fixtures, hotels can achieve green certification from DGS. The California Green Lodging Program encourages state and local government travelers to give preference to certified “green hotels.” More than 200 are listed in the California [Green Lodging Directory](#).

2014 Highlights:

- The Green Lodging Program gained national media attention in 2014 and was mentioned on [Disney Parks Blog](#), as well as featured in *The New York Times* article titled: [The Greening of Business Travel Gains Momentum](#).
- DGS produced a promotional video on the [Green Lodging Program](#).
- As of December 2014, there were 211 DGS-certified green hotels.
- Of the \$5.3 million in 2014 lodging spend captured through Concur/CalTravelStore, \$397,473 was spent at DGS-certified green hotels.





Educating Green

DGS is responsible for providing education, outreach and support for many sustainability-related programs and projects. These support services are aimed at state and local government as well as external audiences. Throughout 2014, DGS made dozens of in-person and webinar presentations at a variety of events. DGS also conducted numerous training sessions, hosted several educational events, and judged multiple competitions. Some of the year's events included:

2014 Highlights:

- DGS held an EVSE workshop and webinar with vehicle displays, vendor exhibits, and subject matter experts from four utilities, California Energy Commission and Division of the State Architect.
- DGS held a training workshop on water conservation for government facility operators that hosted approximately 300 representatives from government agencies, universities, utility companies, and municipal water districts.
- Through the National Association of State Procurement Officials, DGS presented the “State Green Purchasing Practices: Measuring Success – Spend vs. Impacts” case-study webinar to participants in 23 different states.
- Launched *Sustainability Resource Bulletin*, a monthly correspondence that includes training and funding opportunities that may be beneficial to DGS internal and external stakeholders.
- Evaluated and scored California submissions for U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools competition.
- Produced [Greening the Golden State](#), [California Drought: Every Drop Counts](#) and [Saving Water at Capitol Park](#) videos.



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The 2014 Department of General Services Sustainability Highlights Report was produced by the Office of Sustainability. For more information, contact: sustainability@dgs.ca.gov.